

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ADDIS 01605 091545Z

43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /093 W

----- 120182

P R 091314Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8068

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 1605

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FT, FR, ET

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN STATEMENT ON TFAI

REF: ADDIS ABABA 1494 (NOTAL)

1. IN ANNOUNCING THAT ETHIOPIA WOULD PARTICIPATE IN ANY UN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE "RECENT EVENTS" IN THE TFAI, ETHIOPIAN MEDIA FEB. 8 ALSO PUBLISHED AN EPMG STATEMENT ON ETHIOPIAN INTERESTS IN THE FRENCH TERRITORY.

2. "RECENT DEVELOPMENTS," THE STATEMENT SAID, "INDICATE A PATTERN OF GROWING VIOLENCE", ESPECIALLY "THE EVENTS OF THE LAST FEW DAYS (WHICH) CAN ONLY BE LOOKED AT WITH ALARM." THE STATEMENT CRITICIZED THE KIDNAPPING OF FRENCH SCHOOL CHILDREN IN THE TERRITORY AS A "SENSELESS AND GRAVE ACT."

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ADDIS 01605 091545Z

"EVEN MORE SERIOUS TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE REGION,"

THE STATEMENT CONTINUED, "IS THE EXCHANGE OF FIRE BY FRENCH AND SOMALI REGULARS WHICH THE KIDNAPPING PRECIPITATED."

3. THE STATEMENT DELINEATES ETHIOPIAN VITAL INTERESTS IN THE TFAI AND EXPRESSES THE HOPE THAT HEIGHTENED TENSION WILL NOT CAUSE A CONFLICT TO DEVELOP IN THE AREA WHICH WOULD AFFECT ITS PEACE AND STABILITY. THE STATEMENT RECALLS AGREEMENT FROM ALL AFFECTED PARTIES THAT THE TFAI SHOULD BECOME INDEPENDENT AND THAT THAT INDEPENDENCE SHOULD BE ACHIEVED VIA FREE ELECTIONS IN WHICH ALL POLITICAL GROUPS WOULD PARTICIPATE. IN AN OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO SOMALIA, THE STATEMENT DECLARES "NO OUTSIDE FORCE HAS THE RIGHT TO SET PRECONDITIONS TO INDEPENDENCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY, EVEN LESS TO IMPOSE ANY CONDITIONS UPON THEM BY THE INTRODUCTION OF VIOLENCE INTO THEIR POLICIES."

4. THE STATEMENT THEN CONDEMNS ALL ATTEMPTS TO SUBVERT THE SELF-DETERMINATION PROCESS ALREADY UNDERWAY BY CREATING FALSE ISSUES REGARDING INDEPENDENCE OF THE TERRITORY. "WHAT SPECIFIC PURPOSE," THE STATEMENT ASKS, "IS THE INCREASING INTRODUCTION OF VIOLENCE AT THIS PARTICULAR STATE DESIGNED TO SERVE."

COMMENT. ALTHOUGH THE STATEMENT DID NOT CONDEMN THE SOMALIS BY NAME, IT IS CLEARLY DIRECTED AT SOMALIA AND SEEMS DESIGNED TO INCREASE SUPPORT FOR THE ETHIOPIAN POSITION (SELF-DETERMINATION WITHOUT EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE- WHICH IS ON THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS) WITH OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES, NOTABLY AT THE UN. THE HARD-HITTING STATEMENT IS INDICATIVE OF THE POSITION ALLUDED TO IN PARA 4 REFTEL, THAT ETHIOPIA IS GOING TO MAKE A MUCH STRONGER STAND IN INTERNATIONAL FORA WHERE ITS VITAL INTERESTS ARE CONCERNED. ANOTHE INDICATION OF THIS NEW BACKBONE IN ETHIOPIA FOREIGN POLICY WAS THE FEB. 7 INTERVIEW FONMIN KIFLE WODAJO GAVE WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT DAVID OTTAWAY. ACCORDING TO OTTAWAY, KIFLE STATED "FRANKLY AND OPENLY" IN THE INTERVIEW THAT SOMALIA WAS ENGAGED IN AGGRESSIVE OFFENSIVE MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE OGADEN. FIRST, KIFLE REPORTEDLY SAID, SOMALIA HAD HELPED LOCAL DISSIDENTS TO OBTAIN MILITARY TRAINING. SECOND, SOMALIA ARMED AND EQUIPPED THE DISSIDENTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ADDIS 01605 091545Z

AND TRANSPORTED THEM TO THE BORDER. THIS PHASE CONTINUES PRESENTLY, WITH SOMALIA GIVING IMPORTANT AID TO THE INSURGENTS. THE NEXT AND FINAL STEP, ACCORDING TO KIFLE, IS ALL OUT SOMALI MILITARY AGGRESSION IN THE OGADEN. IT WAS TO ALERT OTTAWAY, AND THROUGH HIM, WASHINGTON AND THE AMERICAN PUBLIC, THAT KIFLE GAVE THE INTERVIEW.
HUMMEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION MEDIA, POLICIES, SELFDETERMINATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ADDIS01605
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760048-0946
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760270/aaaacjcr.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ADDIS ABABA 1494
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <02 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ETHIOPIAN STATEMENT ON TFAI
TAGS: PFOR, FT, FR, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006